

Libby

Medical Department,
Municipal Offices,
Totnes.

BUCKFASTLEIGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1958
TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF BUCKFASTLEIGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr.Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1958. As I was not your Medical Officer of Health during 1958, the report has been written with the help of information supplied to me by my predecessor Dr.Ironside, and the Public Health Inspector, Mr.Allen.

The Birth rate was 15.09 and the Death rate 15.38. Once again the large majority of deaths occurred in persons over the age of 65. Heart diseases and Cancer were the main cause of Death, as is the case nationally.

Perhaps the most important event during the year was the opening of the sewage works at Kilbury. With regard to the Housing Programme, building commenced at Higher Mill Lane, to rehouse the persons displaced by the clearance orders made in the year.

1958 saw the introduction of the new Slaughterhouse Act. Existing slaughterhouses do not, however, have to comply with the Regulations dealing with construction until a date in the future.

I am,
Mr.Chairman, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

DR. F.T.HUNT



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

E.C.Ironside M.A., M.D., C.H.D., Resigned May 31st, 1959

F.T.Hunt, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.,

Appointed April 1st, 1959.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

G.T.W.Allen, M.R.S.H.

<u>VITAL STATISTICS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Estimated mid-year population	2.470
Live births14 males and 18 females	32
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	12.9
Still births	NIL
Still birth rate per 1,000 population	NIL
Total births	32
Corrected birth rate per 1,000 population	15.09
Death of infants under 4 weeks 1 male	1
Infant deaths under 1 year 1 male	1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	31.2
Number of illegitimate live births2 females	2
Percentage of illegitimate live births.....	6.25%
Maternal deaths	NIL
Maternity mortality rate per 1,000 total births	NIL
Deaths20 males18 females	38
Crude death rate per 1,000 population	15.38
Area comparability factor	0.76
Corrected death rate per 1,000 population	11.69

<u>CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant Neoplasms	4	1	5
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	1	2	3
Coronary disease	4	-	4
Other heart diseases	4	5	9
Other circulatory diseases	1	-	1
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Other defined or ill-defined diseases	3	1	4
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
Suicides	-	2	2
			<u>38</u>

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

6 diseases were notified during the year.

Measles 2 cases

Scarlet Fever 1 case

Whooping Cough 2 cases

Poliomyelitis 1 case

There were no cases or outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

WATER SUPPLY

No new supplies were brought in during the year. Quarterly analyses were taken and results showed the water to be completely satisfactory for drinking and the general requirements of a public supply.

Several corroded service pipes were renewed in 'alkathene' pipe during the year and it was noted that this destroyed the electrical earthing in a number of cases. When services are now renewed in this piping, occupiers are warned to check with the Electricity Board regarding their circuits.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The new sewage works at Kilbury were opened during the year. These works have been designed to deal with a daily dry weather flow of 450,000 gallons, but are capable of dealing with three times this amount.

The flow to the works is the combined domestic flow of the Urban Districts of Buckfastleigh and Ashburton, together with the trade waste flow from two spinning mills and a fellmongery. In addition, the domestic sewage from Tweenaways is received into the sewer.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

The new tip at Bakerspits has proved to be satisfactory and there have been no problems in connection with refuse disposal.

HOUSING

Five clearance orders, involving 27 houses, were made. Work commenced on the building of 26 houses at Higher Mill Lane to rehouse the tenants displaced.

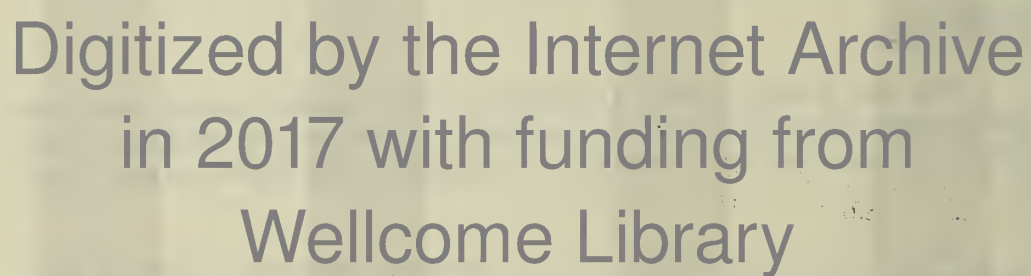
FACTORIES

There are 18 factories in the district, and these were all inspected during the year. Defects were found and remedied following verbal instructions in all cases.

FOOD HYGIENE

All food premises were visited at least once during the year.

The standard of hygiene was generally satisfactory, but it was noted that some food handlers were not familiar with all the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b28960439>

MEAT INSPECTION

During the year a total of 638 cattle units were inspected. Condemnations were principally offals affected by fluke or abscess formation.

